AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 1:

This application is a division of Application No. 10/133,753 filed April 29, 2002, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/467,917 filed December 21, 1999, and this application claims the benefit of Japanese Application Nos. 10-369362 and 11-156988, 11-187909 and 11-319896, which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Page 16:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 7:

Fig. 2 is a partial transverse sectional view for illustrating a principal ~~an essential~~ portion of a position adjustment mechanism according to the first embodiment.

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 10:

Figs. 3A - 3BC ~~each is a view~~ are views for illustrating a method of detecting a position digitally.

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 14:

Fig. 5 is a view for illustrating a variation of the principal ~~essential~~ portion of the position adjustment mechanism.

Page 17:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 9:

~~Fig 13 is comprised of Fig. 13A and Fig. 13B, in which~~ Fig. 13A is a perspective view of an inner column member of the automatic tilt and telescopic type steering apparatus shown in Fig. 11 and Fig. 13B is a front view of an opening of the inner column member shown in Fig. 13A.

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 15:

~~Fig 14 is comprised of Fig. 14A and Fig. 14B, in which~~ Fig. 14A is a longitudinal sectional view of the automatic tilt and telescopic type steering apparatus shown in Fig. 11 and Fig. 14B is a front view of an opening of the inner column member shown in Fig. 14A.

Page 20:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 12:

The middle column 5 is fitted in and held by the lower column 6, and is arranged to be slidably movable in the axial direction together with the forked portion 51 for supporting the upper column 4. That is, it is possible to adjust the telescopic position of the steering wheel 2 by properly moving the middle column 5 back and forth with respect to the lower column 6 fixed to the car body and to move the upper column 4 together with the steering shaft 3 in the axial direction thereof.

Page 23:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 2:

Fig. 2 is a view for explaining the principal ~~essential~~ portion of the electric tilt actuator 7 according to the first embodiment. Referring to Fig. 2, a gear box 70 accommodates therein a plurality of gears (omitted in the drawing) coupled to the rotary shaft of the electric motor 71. The extension/contraction rod device 72 contains an annular gear 72b which rotates upon reception of the power from th gear box 70, and a rod base 72c which has a male

screw formed on the periphery thereof and is engaged with a female screw formed on the inner diameter surface of the annular gear 72b. Since the electric telescopic actuator 8 also has the same or similar structure, description thereof is omitted here.

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 15:

~~Fig. 3 is comprised of~~ Figs. 3A, 3B and 3C are views for explaining the internal structure of the position detecting device 73, in which Fig. 3A shows an example of position detection, while Fig. 3B and Fig. 3C show variations thereof.

Page 24:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 15:

Note that the position detecting device 73 may be composed of a disc-like dielectric pulser which rotates together with the electric motor 71, and a dielectric sensor for detecting approximation of an dielectric region formed on the dielectric pulser by means of a coil. In addition, if a DC brush motor is used as the electric motor 71, a ripple voltage or a high-order noise which is generated when

the brush exceeds a ~~commuter~~ commutator can be used as a position detection pulse. Further, if a DC brushless motor containing a Hall element or a tacho-generator is used as the electric motor 71, it is also possible to detect the position of the steering wheel on the basis of an output of the Hall element or the tacho-generator.

Page 26:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 17:

The upper column 4 is formed of a steel pipe by pressing and, while rotatably holding the steering shaft 3 through a bearing (not shown), is fitted in and held by the lower column 6 to be slidably movable. The lower column 6 is a thin die cast product which is made of an aluminum alloy (~~thereinafter~~ hereinafter) called the aluminum die cast product) and has a large number of ribs on the outer peripheral surface thereof to securely maintain the rigidity. The lower column 6 is coupled to the front end of the bracket 101 to be freely rockable through a hinge pin 103. In consequent, it is possible to adjust the tilt positions of the steering shaft 3 and the steering wheel 2 by properly rocking the lower column 6 with respect to the fixed bracket 101. Note that in the present embodiment, the

fixed bracket 101 is also an aluminum die cast product, similarly to the lower column 6.

Page 42:

Substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at line 7:

~~Since~~ With the tilt steering apparatus [[is]] configured as stated above, the rod 406 ~~is~~ may be moved inward or contracted by means of the drive portion 405 at the tilt ~~decent~~ descent, as shown in Fig. 20, to rock the tilt rocking member 407 clockwise. Then, the sliding piece 409 is caused to slide inside the slide frame portion 410 to rock together with the steering column 402, thereby incline the steering column 402 to a desired position downward.